

OCT 20 1955

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
 Director  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 U. S. Department of Justice  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Edgar:

I very much appreciate your sending me a copy of your reply to Bob Murphy relating to surveillances of certain Latin Americans while in this country and am enclosing a copy of my reply to him on this subject for your information.

Sincerely,

*awb*

Encl. 1

O/DCI/ [redacted] ekt (19 Oct 55)

Distribution:

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 DATE: 31 MAR 1981 REVIEWER: [redacted]

FBI REVIEW COMPLETED FOR  
 RELEASE WITH CIA's REDACTIONS

State Department review completed

*FBI*

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19 October 55

The Honorable Robert Murphy  
Deputy Under Secretary  
for Political Affairs  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

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Dear Mr. Murphy:

Reference is made to your letter of 10 October 1955 relative to the problem of surveilling certain suspected Latin Americans in the United States. In this regard you are correct in your understanding that the CIA does not conduct such surveillances within the confines of the United States. Mr. Hoover has furnished me a copy of his reply to your inquiry setting forth the FBI's jurisdiction and responsibilities in this matter.

In your letter mention is made of the gap in the intelligence information important in the conduct of foreign relations. This Agency welcomes the receipt from the Department of specific requirement briefs, and undeveloped leads regarding Latin American suspects, since we have the trained personnel and operational assets throughout South America who may be capable of fulfilling your requirements.

You may be assured that this Agency will continue to bring promptly any information of this nature developed abroad to the attention of the Department of State and the FBI.

A copy of this reply is being sent to Mr. Hoover.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

DDP/CI/J. Angleton:jbr (17 Oct 1955)

Distribution:

O & 1 - Addressee

1 - Mr. Hoover

Approved For Release 2004/01/15 : CIA-RDP80R01731R000800090004-5

2 - DCI 2C  
1 - CI Staff 1 --C/WH

Approved:

James Angleton

Chief, CI

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25X1

Chief, WFO



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

October 10, 1955

SECRET

Dear Mr. Dulles:

On occasion it has proved important in connection with United States interests in and relations with the other American Republics to obtain intelligence information on activities taking place within the United States. Specifically, it is important that the Department keep track of the movements and contacts of selected Latin Americans while in this country when there are reasons to believe that subversive activities directed at the other Governments of this Hemisphere are being planned and coordinated here. Such activities are against the national interests of the United States in so far as they may result in developments which could endanger United States lives, threaten United States business interests and cause friction within the inter-American system.

In the past the FBI has always cooperated in furnishing the Department in specific Latin American cases with information available from established sources, but it has shown understandable reluctance to become involved to the extent of conducting direct surveillance in cases where there is no evidence of nor reason to suspect subversive activities directed against the United States or violation of United States laws. It is felt that while this information is helpful, it does not completely fill the gap in the intelligence information important in the conduct of foreign relations. It is understood that the CIA, while interested in foreign intelligence, does not carry out surveillance operations within the confines of the United States.

It would be most appreciated if you could express an opinion as to how surveillance of selected Latin American visitors to this country might be arranged on an individual case basis.

An identical letter is being sent to the FBI in the hope that a coordinated approach can be made.

Sincerely yours,

*Robert Murphy*

The Honorable  
Allen W. Dulles, Director,  
Central Intelligence Agency.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

October 14, 1955

Executive Registry

7-5386

Mr. Allen W. Dulles  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Administration Building  
Room 123  
2430 E Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL  
VIA LIAISON

Dear Allen:

Pursuant to our conversation today, I am attaching for your information a copy of a letter which I forwarded today to Honorable Robert Murphy, the Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, which letter relates to surveillances of certain Latin Americans while in this country.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure (1)

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DOCUMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☒  
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NEXT REVIEW DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
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DATE: 31 MAR 1981 REVIEWER:

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October 14, 1955

VIA LIAISON

Honorable Robert Murphy  
Deputy Under Secretary of State  
for Political Affairs  
Department of State  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Murphy:

Reference is made to your letter of October 10, 1955, which notes that it is important for the Department of State to keep track of the movements and contacts of selected Latin Americans while in this country when there are reasons to believe that subversive activities directed at the other governments of this hemisphere are being planned and coordinated in this country. Your letter also notes that this Bureau has shown an understandable reluctance to conduct direct surveillance of such Latin Americans where there is no evidence of nor reason to suspect subversive activities directed against the United States or violation of United States laws. You requested an opinion as to how surveillances of selected Latin American visitors to this country might be arranged on an individual case basis.

When there is creditable information available indicating that subversive activities directed at other governments of this hemisphere are being planned and coordinated in the United States, the FBI takes prompt investigative action in view of the probability of violations of the registration or neutrality provisions of United States laws. In conducting these investigations all logical investigative techniques are used, including physical surveillances where circumstances would warrant. Full-time physical surveillances require a tremendous expenditure of manpower, however, and are practicable only in connection with some phases of highly important cases in the security or criminal fields. In the greater majority of cases more actual information can be obtained through such investigative techniques as spot-type surveillance, the use of available sources of information and informants, the development of special sources in a particular case and the use of other highly confidential investigative techniques where appropriate. There is, however, no reluctance on the part of the FBI to conduct physical surveillances where the circumstances warrant such action.

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